

*Art. 34*

*WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:*  
Patent Claims

1. A method for statistical multiplexing of ATM links, having

5 a plurality of virtual connections, which transmit ATM cells via a connecting line, and having further incoming connections, which are assigned to a first or a second class (S, P) depending on question criteria,

10 characterized

in that the first and the second class (S, P) are subdivided into further sub-classes ( $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $S_3$ ;  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ ,  $P_3$ ), and the question criterion are applied successively in steps to each of the sub-classes ( $S_1$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $S_3$ ) until a further incoming connection accepted in a sub-class, or all the sub-classes have been passed through.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized

in that the question criteria are formed by linking transmission parameters of the connecting line and/or of the connection.

3. The method as claimed in one of claims 1 or 2, characterized

in that the transmission parameters and/or their links to one another are stored in a network node, and are updated when an ATM link is set up and/or cleared.

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